

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 107359
ORIGIN SS-25

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P:JFORBES
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 107359

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PPMC, OVIP (KING HASSAN II), MO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER'S REPLY TO PERSONAL MESSAGE
FROM KING HASSAN

1. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO TRANSMIT TO KING ADVANCE COPY OF
FOLLOWING LETTER, WHICH PRESIDENT SIGNED ON APRIL 25:

2. BEGIN TEXT OF LETTER: QUOTE: YOUR MAJESTY: THANK YOU
FOR THE MESSAGE BROUGHT TO WASHINGTON BY FOREIGN MINISTER
BOUCETTA. I REGRET MY SCHEDULE DID NOT PERMIT A PERSONAL
MEETING, BUT THE VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY VANCE HAVE
INFORMED ME OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MINISTER.

SECRETARY VANCE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A THOROUGH
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BOUCETTA ON A
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VARIETY OF ISSUES OF COMMON CONCERN. WE WELCOMED THIS
OCCASION TO CONSULT CLOSELY AND TO OBTAIN FROM THE
FOREIGN MINISTER DIRECTLY YOUR GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THESE
IMPORTANT MATTERS.

AS YOU KNOW, OUR EXCHANGES HERE INCLUDED A FULL DISCUS-
SION OF THE SPECIFIC ISSUE OF MY GOVERNMENT'S PUBLIC

STATEMENTS REGARDING THE SAHARA. I TRUST YOUR MAJESTY NOW APPRECIATES THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH SUCH STATEMENTS WERE MADE AND UNDERSTANDS THAT, IN ALL OUR PUBLIC STATEMENTS CONCERNING MOROCCO, WE SEEK TO EMPHASIZE THE EXCELLENT CHARACTER OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION MOROCCO TRADITIONALLY HAS EXTENDED THE UNITED STATES, AND THE GREAT ADMIRATION IN THIS COUNTRY FOR THE COURAGE WITH WHICH YOU AND YOUR ADVISERS HAVE DEFINED MOROCCO'S INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION.

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF YOUR SUGGESTION FOR DISCUSSIONS HERE IN WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH. UNFORTUNATELY, MY CALENDAR FOR MAY IS VERY CROWDED, AS SEVERAL STATE VISITORS ARE ALREADY SCHEDULED, AND THERE WILL BE A NATO SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON AT THE END OF THE MONTH. I SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT THROUGH OUR FOREIGN MINISTERS WE FIND A TIME FOR A MEETING WHICH WILL BE MUTUALLY CONVENIENT. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE CHANCE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH YOU.

IN THE MEANTIME, YOU HAVE MY VERY BEST PERSONAL WISHES AND YOU CAN BE ASSURED OF THE LASTING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP THAT BIND OUR TWO COUNTRIES. RESPECTFULLY YOURS,
JIMMY CARTER. END QUOTE.

3. APPRISED IN RESPONSE TO HIS INQUIRY THAT LETTER HAD BEEN SIGNED AND WAS BEING SENT TELEGRAPHICALLY FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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AMBASSADOR TO DELIVER IN RABAT, AMBASSADOR BENGELLOUN EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT FOREIGN MINISTER BOUCETTA WAS POSSIBLY STILL ABSENT FROM RABAT AND THAT OTHERS IN MINISTRY SHOULD NOT BE MADE AWARE OF KING'S MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT. FOR THIS REASON BENGELLOUN HAS CALLED TO ALERT MOULAY HAFID AND SUGGESTS THAT YOU CONTACT LATTER EITHER TONIGHT OR EARLY APRIL 27 TO ARRANGE TO DELIVER RESPONSE TO HIM.

4. SIGNED ORIGINAL OF LETTER FOLLOWS BY POUCH. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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